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# Passion for the craft drives creativity at Artech Studios

**AMANDA DUNCOMBE-LEE**
*County Life* Contributor

For Jenn Wanless-Craig, owner of Tory-Hill based Artech Studios alongside her husband Terry Craig, discovering glassblowing was a happy accident.

"It was my elective at Ontario College of Art and Design. I was going to go in for drawing and painting. I tried [glassblowing] and loved it, but not enough to switch my major," she said.

She went on to attend two other art schools, each which also had their own glassblowing studio.

"I had never seen it growing up. I was like, this is a bit of a sign; I really love watching it. So, I enrolled in Sheridan College."

Terry Craig was enrolled in ceramics at Sheridan before discovering glass and quickly switched over as well.

After graduating, he met Jenn at a party in an old glass studio in Toronto. They were married just four months later. When the Haliburton College of Art and Design offered Craig a contract to build equipment for their glass studio, the pair quickly embraced the idea of living in Haliburton.

"We thought, this was our opportunity. It was expensive to be an artist in Toronto, and we had a baby. This was an opportunity to leave the city and have our own studio," said Wanless-Craig.

They've now been married for 25 years and running the Hot Shop by Artech Studios, a traditional glassblowing studio, for over two decades, hosting workshops and attending tradeshows while raising their daughter, Anabelle. This is their tenth year participating in the Studio Tour Haliburton Highlands, scheduled for October 2025.

For this year's tour, they will be offering studio demonstrations to the public and creating various pieces, including collectible animals and glass pumpkins, as well as offering a range of glass art from their onsite gallery. Their upcycled beer glasses continue to be a popular item.

Anabelle, now a university student, oversees the gallery during the tour.

The pair also runs workshops seven months of the year, and have been hosting five glassblowing classes per week all summer.

"It's quite an immediate art form. It's hard and fast and loud, and what you make is ready the next day… we like the crazy intensity of it. This summer has been particularly hot, but we still secretly loved it," said Wanless-Craig.

Jenn Wanless-Craig and her husband, Terry, pictured below, are dedicated to the world of glass blowing. /submitted

Wanless-Craig feels it's important for prospective artists to prioritize their own happiness, even if the road to achieving it is long.

"We wanted to make things and be happy. Sometimes it sounds so fairytale, but it is important to do what your heart wants and follow your dream. If you're a hard worker, the money will come. We wanted to live in the middle of nowhere and build a studio, and we did it. Over the years, so many hard things have happened. But if you really want something you can do it," she said.

"I love all parts of it … it's our job, but it's also our calling."

Artech Studios is located at 18639 Hwy 118, Tory Hill. They will open to the public during the Studio Tour and are also open by appointment. More information is available at artechstudios.ca.

The 2025 Studio Tour runs over the weekends of Oct 4-5 and Oct. 11-12. The studios are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visitors can find more information at www.thestudiotour.ca.

CountyLife

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# Gord Jones lets his art lead the viewer

**AMANDA DUNCOMBE-LEE**
*County Life* Contributor

Haliburton-based artist Gord Jones has held a passion for watercolour painting for most of his life. Yet, he claims it's "acceptance of imperfection" of the watercolour medium that has him most enthralled with the creative process.

"When I'm painting a scene and realize the medium has done something unintended, that's the hook. Letting something happen and realizing I can make something of this… and that it's something I wanted," he said.

"There's a saying that everyone starts with watercolour and ends with watercolour. You really have to spend a long time doing it to get a handle on the medium, to be proficient. A lot of artists get frustrated and move on to other mediums. It usually ends up being people who are persistent, and maybe not so focused on the result. Acceptance of imperfection is something I've learned."

Jones is one of dozens of artists who will display their work during the Studio Tour Haliburton Highlands, slated for this fall.

Jones has been painting for over forty years. Growing up in Stoney Creek, Hamilton, he started painting industrial scenes in his early 20s while attending the Dundas Valley School of Art.

"Being an industrial city environment, the Dundas Valley School of Art was something special for people in our area," he said. "I took advantage of many classes there in several mediums and professional artists. Watercolour was something I took to, and I've been practising that art ever since. Wherever I am, I paint what I see."

He describes his work as experimental or intuitive, saying that he enjoys letting the art lead the viewer. "I like to focus on one aspect of the landscape or the scene and try to let the viewer participate by completing the painting."

While Jones paints through the seasons, he finds winter the most inspiring for his craft. "I love the snow scenes. Watercolour is transparent, snow is basically transparent, and reflective … it just suits my approach to the medium. Everything is cleaner here in the winter."

For Jones, 'here' is his home in the Algonquin Highlands where he moved permanently eight years ago, after cottaging in the Haliburton area for 25 years. He's taught at the Haliburton School of Art and Design for the past seven years, and also offers online classes and in-person workshops in various locations in Ontario.

Gord Jones dabbles with watercolours in his studio. /submitted

Snow Road by Gord Jones. /submitted

The 2025 Studio Tour will be his eighth year on the circuit. Jones has been putting in summer hours in his creative space at White Pine Studio to ensure a high-quality, expansive portfolio.

"I save my best for the Studio Tour," he said. "I'm painting a little bit larger this year and trying to push my colours to be a bit more striking. As far as numbers go, I'll have a lot more displayed."

Jones will be sharing his studio with Raku ceramic artist Renée Woltz for the third year in a row.

White Pine Studio is located at 1198 Oliver Road, Algonquin Highlands. The studio will open to the public during the Studio Tour and is also open by appointment. Some of Jones' works can be viewed on his website at www.watercoloursbygordjones.com.

The 2025 Studio Tour runs over the weekends of Oct 4-5 and Oct. 11-12. The studios are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visitors can find more information at www.thestudiotour.ca.

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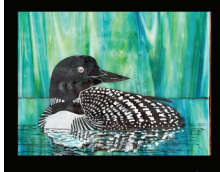

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# Glass Eagle Studios owner credits success to the power of 'We'

**AMANDA DUNCOMBE-LEE**
*County Life* Contributor

In recollecting how he came to be an established stained glass artist, Tom Green substitutes 'we' for 'I' throughout much of the discussion.

For Green, who identifies as Métis, 'we' includes the Creator, his family, past mentors, and the local students he supports.

"I didn't get to this point, 'we' got me to this point," he said.

Green has more than 40 years of experience in the art world and is one of dozens of artists featured in the upcoming Studio Tour Haliburton Highlands in October 2025.

The urge to create manifested early for Green.

"All through school I was interested in the arts. In Grade 5 I knew I was going to have an art studio and sell art," he said.

On the advice of his high school art teacher, Green pursued his passion. He attended St. Lawrence College and Queens University in Kingston, majoring in photography and printmaking. Upon graduating, he took a job taking pictures of stained glass in a studio in Port Dalhousie where some master glassmakers were working.

"I was waiting for them to have another job for me. I picked up the glass cutter…and I learned stained glass there when I was waiting for them."

Green moved to Haliburton County after the construction of a new casino led to his home and studio in Niagara Falls being bulldozed.

"So we were ousted…I didn't know what was going to happen. We left Niagara to do a craft show in Haliburton… and on our way home there was a 'for sale' sign on the corner."

Green made an offer on Moon School, a 150-year-old schoolhouse on the corner of Blairhampton Road and County Rd 21 in Minden. He worked with his team to restore it and established Glass Eagle Studios & Creative Garden Centre in 2001.

The studio's extensive garden features thousands of tulips, daffodils, and other perennials, as well as herbs, fruit trees, ponds, and a wide array of local wildlife. Birds and squirrels chirp and hop around the property, and visitors include bears, wolves, moose and foxes.

"I wanted something that had a story behind it," he said. "A lot of work went into getting this place up and running. We travelled back and brought fertilizer and manure. We planted fruit trees 20 years ago and now they're producing. We learned a lot over the years."

An example of a 3D glass fish. /Amanda Duncombe-Lee

Tom Green works away at cutting glass in his studio. /Amanda Duncombe-Lee

The garden was aptly named the 'We Garden.'

Inside the studio, a dazzling assemblage of stained glass images, figurines, ornaments, cards and souvenirs dot the shelves and walls. His stained glassworks predominantly feature nature. A popular new feature for this year's Studio Tour is brilliant array of 3D glass sculptures of chipmunks, birds, fish, and other animals.

Green likens stained glass to his first craft of photography. "You need light to get the results you want," he said.

Green's work schedule is intense; he currently works 12-15 hours a day over the summer. In addition to selling directly from his studio, he takes commission-based work, from custom pieces to large projects. An ongoing five-year project has had him crafting and installing 33 windows for a synagogue in Toronto.

Green also sells honey made by his mother's extended family, who he says has been working with bees for 110 years and currently has over a thousand hives in farmers' fields from Madoc to Ottawa Valley.

Visitors can find Glass Eagle Studios at 2801 Blairhampton Road, Minden. Green's creations are available for sale at his studio, open during business hours every day. A selection of his works is available at glasseaglestudios.wordpress.com.

Green will be selling glassworks, honey, and other offerings out of his studio during the Studio Tour and providing demonstrations to the public. Visitors will have the opportunity to try cutting glass. 10 percent of all sales go towards supporting local youth, some of whom will be helping with the event.

The 2025 Studio Tour runs over the weekends of Oct 4-5 and Oct 11-12. The studios are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visitors can find more information at www.thestudiotour.ca.

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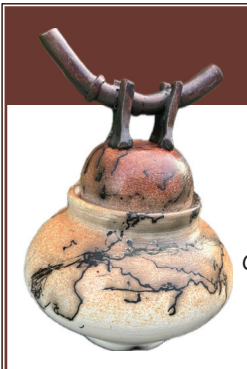

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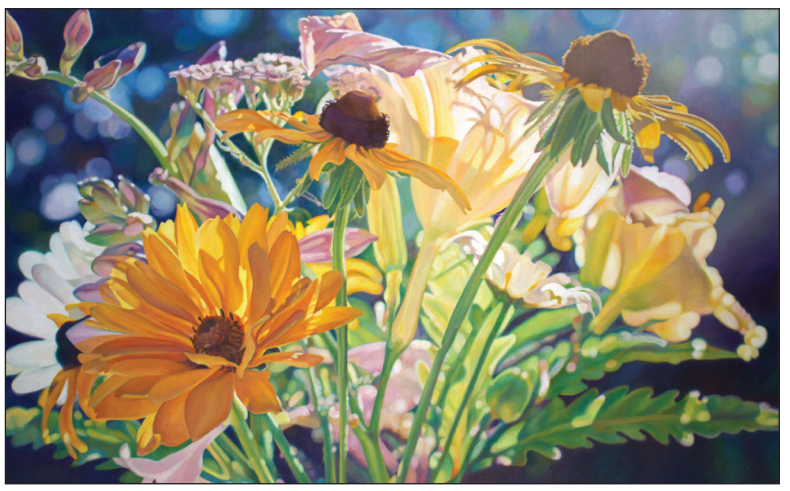

Jen Hodges Abstract Art /submitted

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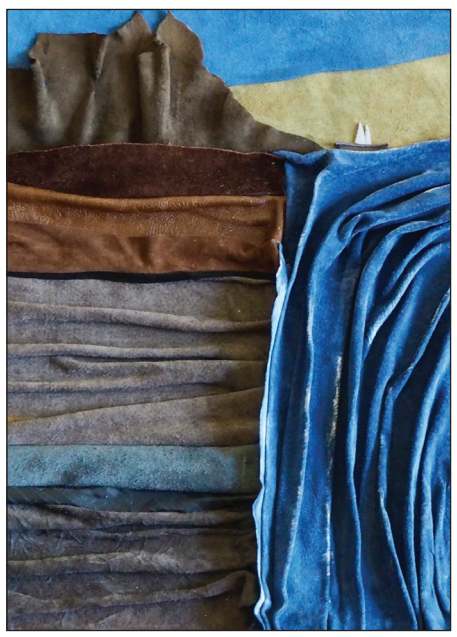

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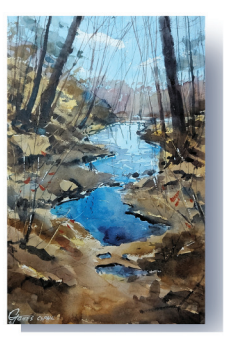

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## Soup

A FEW WEEKS ago, I was invited to photograph the SIRCH Empty Bowls fundraiser at the Haliburton Legion. An annual event that the organizers have had to greatly expand based on popularity, it showcased local artists, local musicians, and local food vendors.

The idea of the fundraiser was that pottery artists from the Haliburton Highlands (there are surprisingly many) create beautiful bowls that attendees can select and take home, but not before they spend the evening sampling some of the finest soups the county has to offer, from a wide variety of restaurants participating. Proceeds from the event goes towards SIRCH food programming, to help those in need.

**EMILY STONEHOUSE**
*County Life Editor*

The event was held on a Saturday, and my nine-year-old stepdaughter asked if she could tag along.

Sure, I said. Why not?

She's shown a recent interest in writing and photography, and while I would never imagine directing her towards any particular career at her malleable age, I didn't see any harm in allowing her to explore the world I walk in.

And I am so glad I did.

Because this was not the type of event where you just snap some photos and go; adding dashed cutlines and slapping it wherever it fits in the paper.

This was an event with heart, with spirits, with soul, with soup.

There are proven benefits to holding something warm; a hot cup of tea, a steaming bowl of soup, that expand beyond simple enjoyment.

It's been scientifically identified that holding a bowl of soup can foster feelings of warmth, trust, and empathy in social interactions, and has physical benefits like improved circulation and muscle relaxation.

The calming effect of holding something warm can mitigate anxious thoughts, and improve your overall mood. It's essentially the same feeling of comfort as a desired hug.

Not only is this proven to improve your own emotions, but it inherently encourages trust and empathy, allowing you to perceive others as having warm, compassionate, and trustworthy personalities.

And I think we all need a little more of that these days.

Beyond the noted benefits of holding something warm, there was a palpable energy to the Empty Bowls fundraiser. Laughing, hugging, dancing, singing. The room smelled somehow both sweet and salty; the medley of the many soups swirling together through the hall.

I think the emotion that was felt throughout the duration of the evening was quite simply, love. The soups were each made with consideration, time, and love. The bowls all handmade with care, clay, and love. The funds all donated from pockets that are often strapped, but handed over with love. The music played with energy, enthusiasm, and love.

What an event to bring a young child to. A child who is on the cusp of navigating this big, bold, beautiful, but often, scary world. There is such uncertainty about the future. So many questions left dangling for the next generation to grab hold of, and tag with some semblance of answers.

But when your community comes together to create an event that is built on love, you can't help but hold that in your very core, your compass in the storm.

And as we look forward with hope and hindsight, let us hold on to the feeling of a warm bowl in our hands.

# Top 10 signs fall is here

THE CALENDAR tells us summer is over and autumn is here. But you don't need a calendar to know that fall is here. You just need to look at the signs.

Here are the top 10 that hint autumn has arrived.

**STEVE GALEA**
Humour Columnist

1. You think your house is under one of those piles of leaves.
2. Your colour-blind friend is a little perturbed.
3. Every morning you have a hard time coordinating socks with hunter orange.
4. You are once again wondering why there is no pumpkin-flavoured toothpaste.
5. Neighbour is continually hugging his leaf blower.
6. Barnyard turkeys are digging escape tunnel.
7. Rake-related injuries on the rise.
8. Birds are migrating south through the living room window.
9. You realize that you won't see another non-facial tattoo until spring.
10. Frost on the old pumpkin – and on the rest of your body too.

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# Passing

Fleck of pale yellow butterfly fluttering through Air, warm as fur,
leaves stirring in their trees beneath a blaze of blue Sky, sunlight swathing these last days of summer
before it curls into fall,
my eyes following the frenzy of the butterfly's flight, zig-zagging over blades of grass and clovers
and the lone grandma dandelion that still stands, not a tuft of white fluff out of place as breeze blows across it,
reaching a great age within the span of several months, wondering who will live longer,
the grandma dandelion or the pale yellow butterfly, passing a leaf in the Air as it floats toward the ground,
landing on the grass in the shade of its tree, tinges of red painting its crown,
I glance back down, my eyes scouring Air for the fleck of butterfly
that zig-zags its way down the slope of a hill,
disappearing around the corner where the stream flows, wondering whether it hears the water murmur
as it passes over it,
sees the pebbles and stones nestling beneath the surface, as sunlight silvers strands of the stream,
my lungs inhaling the warmth of summer's last Breaths, as I sprawl on a patch of grass
beneath the shade of a willow,
the soles of my feet feeling the green softness of grass, after Rain,
my eyes watching an ant crawling over the hillock of my ankle, across the plain of my calf,
before it clambers back down into the forest of grass, blades, tall as trees,
for the ant to explore, clovers sheltering it from Sun,
I wonder whether I've sat on a colony of ants, as another one explores the boulder of my big toe,
crawling toward the sole of my bare foot, that squirms as the ant's legs tickle it, but I don't flick it away,
wondering whether it feels the heat of this late summer day as it explores the strange terrain of my flesh,
that soon will be swaddled in sweaters, my feet, sweating in socks, cloistered in shoes,
longing to breathe fresh Air again,
a crimson leaf floating toward the ground, landing near the lone grandma dandelion, that still stands,
perfectly coiffed and erect, towering over blades of grass and clovers and the maple leaf
that falls early from its tree,
I cup my face up toward the balm of breeze, grateful that my Life spans longer than a fleck of butterfly's
or an ant or a leaf,
but not nearly as long as the old willow, beneath whose limbs I sprawl,
or the stones sleeping at the bottom of a stream, as sunlight strokes its skin,
I glance toward the slope of the hill, spotting another butterfly fluttering through Air,
watching the frenzy of its flight, as its butter-coloured wings graze late summer light,
passing over the shadow of a maple tree, standing silent and still at the top of the hill
as it surrenders another leaf.

*Sylvie Kalenda*

## Food for the soul

SIRCH hosted their annual Empty Bowls fundraiser at the Haliburton Legion this past Saturday. With over 300 in attendance over the course of two seatings, the event was a success, showcasing local potters, restaurants, and musicians along the way, all while raising money and awareness for food insecurity in Haliburton County.
/EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

# Off the shoe

TERESA JORDAN
*Community Living Contemplations*

I STILL do errands for my adult kids when it makes sense. My son needed a new gripper for his curling shoes and I popped into the shop while I was working in Peterborough one day. I took the old gripper so that I would be sure to get the right style and size. The salesperson offered to help and I explained my simple task. When she looked at the old gripper and where it had broken down she asked if it was stored on the shoe or off. I said that it was kept on the shoe in the curling bag. She then advised that it is not meant to be stretched on the shoe all the time, when not in use it should be stored separately so that the rubber does not break down.

This, I think, is good advice for curlers, but perhaps even better advice for all of us. We are not built to stay on duty, connected, up to date on the breaking news, linked to social media and working away all the time. Being stretched that way will of course cause the kind of fatigue that broke the rubber gripper.

I recently read that our brains are basically wired to find berries and keep warm and now we are inundating ourselves with news and emotions from around the world all the time. Our brains are stretched. It's a tall order to just say, well lets rest, lets unwind, lets unplug. We are all dependent on our phones, on the connection and we are a little addicted to the sound bytes of Tik Tok or other clips that fill the gaps in our down time.

Perhaps all we can do is take the sound advice of the curling shopkeeper, when not in use, rest. Take a few moments to be completely unconnected, take a few moments to mindfully look all around and see what is there, intentionally find a small dark curling bag-like get away to rest in as much as possible. Lots of people feel that in this fast paced world the kind of slow pace of the past is impossible, and I know that in my circles we are certainly packing our days. I guess mostly I am thinking about knowing and understanding that we are going to break down if not allowed off the curling shoe, so I think the goal is to find a few gaps and spaces to just rest, off-duty, unconnected, off the shoe.

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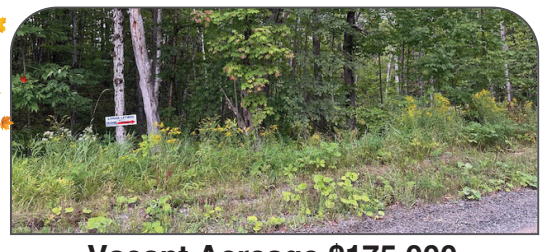

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# Naturally Yours

## Oak on the Rocks

**RICK WHITTEKER**
*Naturally Yours*

If you like oak trees and rocks, there is a great hike in the Algonquin Highlands that will fill your soul. Unlike quickly melting highball "rocks," the rocks on the Circuit of Five Viewpoints (C5V) trail are part of the Canadian Shield and have been around for billions of years and are not going anywhere soon!

The trailhead for the C5V trail is at 2029 Little Hawk Lake Road north of Halls Lake off of Highway 35. With lots of parking, the trail starts with a gradual ascent to a bony ridge of rock and roots. This trail has challenging sections and flat easy parts too giving the hike terrain variety and exposure to a diversity of habitats.

The five viewpoints are a set of lookouts to a variety of landscapes, however, don't expect eye popping vistas at each destination. Hiking counterclockwise around this loop trail, viewpoint number 5 is the first viewpoint and number 1 is the last. Viewpoints 4, 3, 2 give colourful vistas of distant lakes and forested ridges with twinkling peeks at the Kennisis River below. Viewpoint 5 is over a small rocky canyon and viewpoint and number 1 overlooks a wetland with its hummock islands and swaying cotton grass.

What stood out for me on this hike was the number of oak trees, both red and white. Struggling like all trees in the drought of the summer of 2025, some leaves were already brown, others red and some still green. Masses of acorns lined the trail, the red oak acorns being one to three centimetres long and the white oak acorns being about half that size.

Oaks are tough trees. Red oaks in Central Ontario are often found along dry, rocky ridges like the C5V trail as their deep tap root and tough, waxy leaves give them an advantage in finding and withstanding water scarcity. Although they grow bigger and stronger in deep, rich soils, oaks are not shade tolerant; therefore, these high points allow them to flourish without being shaded out by faster growing, more shade tolerant beeches and maples.

The trail stays high on a ridge through the first two kilometers and then drops down into the valley. The forest changes at lower elevations, the soils are deeper and wetter. Towering white pines flourish amongst the mixed hardwoods. This year, there is a detour to work around to avoid a logging operation. The Algonquin Highlands staff have worked hard to make the detour clear. With a minor bit of early confusion, well placed trail markers helped me to find my way back to the single-track trail via quaint backroads and a multi-use trail.

A significant climb greets hikers after

View looking up from the valley. /photos by RICK WHITTEKER

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# Naturally Yours

a saunter through the flat terrain of the valley. Huge random boulders line the trail on this ascent. With the migration of warblers, vireos and many other songbirds almost complete, the twitter of birdsong is replaced by clucks, squeaks and scolding natter of chipmunks and squirrels.

Taking advantage of the bounty of acorns strewn about, these two common forest dwellers use their well-appointed rodent denture formula to gnaw away at the hardy acorn shell to get to the rich seed inside. Being eight per cent protein and thirty-seven perc ent fat, the oak seed will help these frisky critters withstand deep winter chill. When not eating their fill, they keep busy burying caches of food for future use, hiding them from other acorn lovers and helping, inadvertently, to disperse the seeds for the mother trees when cache locations are forgotten.

Acorns are also an important food source for bears, deer, racoons and even birds like wood ducks, blue jays and nuthatches. Many insects use oaks as a host for their larva including wasps, beetles, moths, butterflies, aphids and flies. Oaks are an important tree that supports a tremendous amount of forest biodiversity.

Soon after the steep climb, hikers can rest at a nice vista looking out over the valley at viewpoint number 4. Yellow signs warning of a steep cliff are prominently displayed along the trail here. There are no safety barriers on this trail, so hikers need to be vigilant while visiting lookout locations. All viewpoints are safe viewing areas in my opinion.

Nearing kilometer 4, the terrain gets variable as short but rugged drops and climbs will keep your attention. Smoothed out tree bark would suggest many hands have used these ideally located trees as momentum anchors! The trail eventually drops into a wide flat multi-use trail then out to a quaint private gravel road which leads to Big Hawk Lake Road and the parking area. The gentle last half kilometer is a welcomed break from the rugged single track near the end of this loop.

The Circuit of 5 Viewpoints trail is a gorgeous loop that also provides access to other hiking trails including the Crest of Kennisis and the Ridge Trail. Well marked and maintained, I took the full three hours to complete the C5V, enjoying a slower pace, stopping often and savouring the solitude of a solo hike with no other hikers in sight. Leaving me tired but not exhausted, this six-kilometer loop blends destination worthy viewpoints along rocky ridges cloaked with mature forest. Oh … and yes, lots of acorns!

Care needs to taken at some viewpoints

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# *Snapshots of summer from Lake WhaddayathinkImean*

**MAYBELLE'S**
Fireside Stories

DEAR READER,

Why, if today isn't the last day of summer, don'tcha know. Yes, as I write this, it's September 22. And as tempted as ol' Maybelle is to cling to it, why everything around me says it's done. Gone. The train has left the station. Autumn is here. The trees will tell you that. Just look at them. Get yourself driving or walking or cycling down a country road here in Lake WhaddayathinkImean and I guarantee just looking at all those gold, red, purple and orange leaves shaking in a cool breeze like maracas, will get you oo-ing and ahh-ing with wonder. You won't even mind wearing a sweater.

Snap some pictures. Capture the colours – the baby steps of autumn.

And then take a moment or two or ten, as ol' Maybelle is about to do right now, to pull up some snapshots of summer. Those super hot days that got you jumping in a lake real quick. Made you wish you had an air conditioner sitting on your head, don'tcha know.

Yes, we had a whole lot of super hot days and just a wee smidgeon of rain.

Why my grass was so dry. (How dry was it?) It was so dry a FIRE BAN was called. Well, not just because of MY grass, but because dry foliage covered most of Lake W. And if that FIRE BAN didn't keep folks from using their charcoal barbeques, don'tcha know.

I know, because I was one of them. Had to borrow a portable propane barbeque for Twindle Mumbly's birthday bash at the beach. Yes, it was dear Twindle's b-day and none of us knew how old our young-at-heart friend was about to be. Why, he stopped counting candles before the wicks could dry, so I can't tell you exactly how old, rather "young" our Twindle is.

The weather was perfect that Sunday at Lake WhaddayathinkImean Beach.

Vilma Yucch, Officer Stanley Penelope McBottom (McB for short for this towering marshmallow of a sweetheart of Vilma's, now, finally, her fiancée. More about that later), Beanpole Starkman, Sybil Beaucannon Hughes and ol' Maybelle were all there to celebrate and play together. I thought it best to keep Bogart, my pet bear, at home. Most people see a bear and have heart failure. Who would guess that Bogart has a genius I.Q., does George Carlin stand-up routines as good as on prime time, and refers to himself on dating apps as: Hairy?

Officer McB brought bocce balls for us to play with. Sybil brought bright blue and pink noodles to float around on, plus a blow-up dinosaur. She knew Twindle, being a taxidermist, would love that one. Vilma brought frisbees and a croquet set, plus vintage nibblies: red licorice, chocolate covered malted milk balls, and saltwater taffy.

By the way, remember the rock that McB gave Vilma as an engagement ring? I'm talking a rock he found on the ground when they were out hiking. Well, I noticed that Vilma wasn't wearing it, so of course, I asked why?

"The weight of it gave me carpal tunnel, Maybelle," she said. "So, Stanley switched it up with this!" She lifted her hand proudly and showed off her new ring. "Why, if it doesn't look like a real cigar band," I said. "Oh, it IS, Maybelle. From a real Cuban cigar! But, look closely. Stanley brought it to Louis Snellhouse Fluke the jeweller, who copied the design onto real gold and loaded it with gemstones."

Vilma's baby blues sparkled like diamonds on water – a real starburst eclipse. And if her heart didn't pop right out of her chest, don'tcha know. Well, in ol' Maybelle's eyes, anyway.

Well, that day, I think we all became a whole lot younger, including the birthday boy. Sure, just cook up some hot dogs, share cake and ice cream, balloons and team games, and you've got a bunch of eight-year-old grey hairs having one heck of a fun time!

Just to be funny, we loaded Twindle's b-day cake with several boxes of candles so he could hardly see the frosting. Plus, ol' Maybelle gave him a fire extinguisher as his present.

Good times. Great memories. Ol' Maybelle's summer snapshots from Lake WhaddayathinkImean, don'tcha know.

*Maybelle's Fireside Stories is written by Jerelyn Craden. "Maybelle's Cure for What Ails You," 21 of Maybelle's best short stories and her novel: "Vessie Flamingo Outshining the Moon" now available at www.amazon.com. Plus, "Foodie in the Hoodie" in Haliburton County Life.*

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# Icons and amulets

**DEB REED**
*Wind in the Attic*

I RECENTLY sought another small tattoo from a lovely new artist in Haliburton. Surprised myself. I'm older than most, yet feel a loyalty to something very young, as if I were still a 60s teen. Flower Power was subconsciously fuelling me then, but full force soon exploded in the form of music. One effort at assimilating with adolescent peers was my birthday request for a personal transistor radio. CHUM consistently replayed the hits my classmates so exclusively sang. So I installed a 9-volt battery into my new magic portal to see what all the fuss was about. Tunes until then had been my parents' choices, or LP extensions of Disney. But when the first tinny notes of Otis Redding tickled my anxious ear, half-swallowed in a pillow so as not to disturb the household … well, I was newborn. A window opened for baby wings to fly Peter Pan-style into worlds I'd only heard about.

I fell in love. Guitars, drums, tambourines, keyboards. Solos, harmonies, lyrics, metaphors…pacifist rebellion. I instantly knew I could also belong to a realm of open hearts, of words and people needing similar expression in similar ways around similar important things. Peace, truth, justice, hug-a-tree connection. All we needed was love. Change was gonna come …

I changed. Counter-culture was scrutinizing authority out loud. And teens were avidly listening. 'Freedom' was being reevaluated. People challenged people. The planet's own heart was loudly heard again. It was 'the time'. We'd carry this with us, take it forward to our children, to careers, to our special ways of being in the world. We noticed that life is a privilege, and very very short. Fill it with good stuff. Use your loudest softest voice.

A Haliburton friend likens our current time of life to coins circling a drain. With every day remaining, we say just a little bit more. We'd noticed in the 60s that everyone got frightened by world politics, their representatives, their polarizing threats and strange modern dangers. My transistor radio once fed me identity as it whispered nightly colours of Woodstock into my buried open ear. Restless book-reading youth gathering ideas. Non-violence, equal rights, and brave new souls taking platforms.

My children now approach middle age. To me they're still teenagers, active with good will, exquisite connection to nature, music, literature and honesty. Both sport tattoos, one subtly, the other, more overtly. I sought my own first ink over fifteen years ago. Two tiny symbols to represent the enduring specialness of my daughters. Grandchildren came next, and hence more tiny tattoos hidden under my watchband and friendship bracelets. My continuing later-in-life desire to collect such icons still helps me represent my priorities.

Though I finally begin to 'circle the drain', I'm somehow happier and safer knowing I carry some 'hippie' ink. Looming next comes another era of planetary unrest. My hidden wrists hold 60s icons. Of nature, sky, poetry, ancestors. These are extra important to me, especially now as I look at life from both sides.

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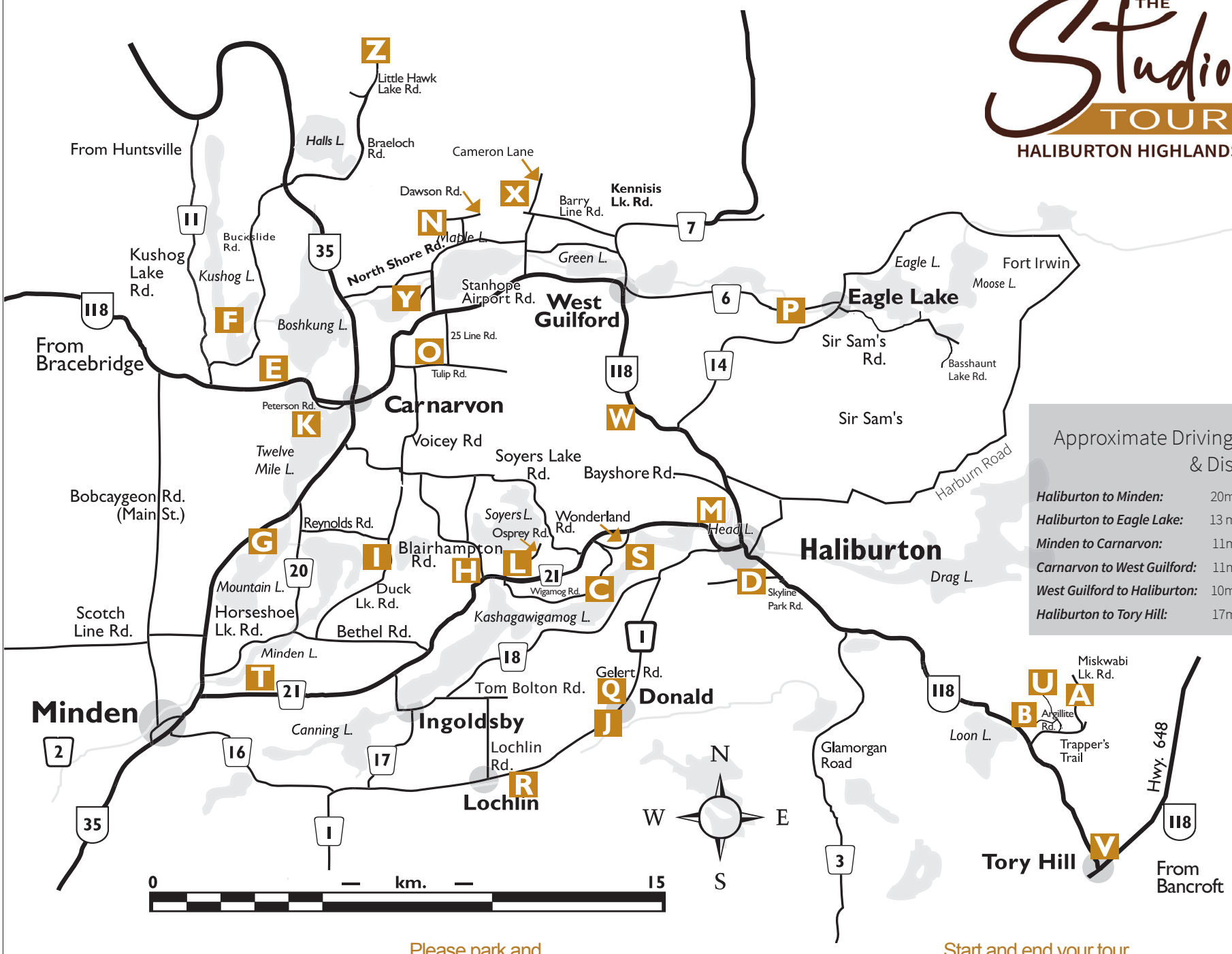
THE Studio TOUR
HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS

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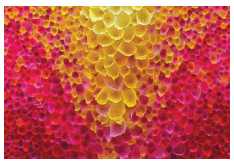

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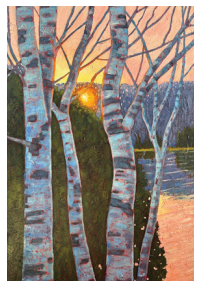

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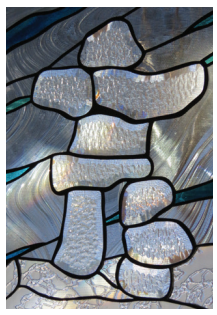

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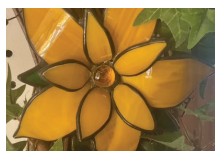

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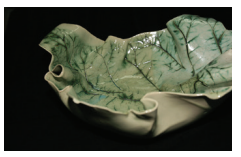

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### Brent McGillivray & Maureen Bennett
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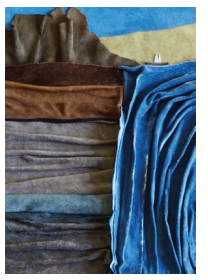

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*Raku and Stoneware Pottery*

**2254 Duck Lake Rd, Minden 705.286.3383**
**@sylviarose1247**
**studiorose@yahoo.com**
**www.studiorosepottery.com**

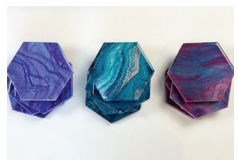
**J**

### Shelley van Nood
A Stitch at a Time
*Fabric Arts*

**5635 Gelert Road**
**705.306.0245**
**@quilted.by.shelley**
**thevannoods@gmail.com**
**www. astitchatatime.ca**

**J** GUEST

### Jen Hodges
Jen Hodges Abstract Art - *Acrylic & Resin Paintings & Functional Art*



**5635 Gelert Road**
**416.795.1008**
**@jenhodgesabstractart**
**jenhodgesabstractart@gmail.com**
**www.jenhodgesabstractart.com**

**O**

### Corin Ford Forrester
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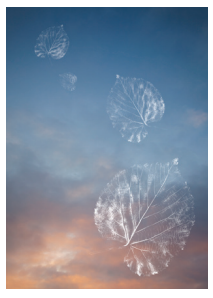

**1528 Tulip Road, Algonquin Highlands**
**705.750.7119**
**@corin_ford_forrester_**
**corin@corinfordforrester.com**
**www.corinfordforrester.com**

**O** GUEST

### Tracey Lee Green
*Contemporary Métis Nature Artist*

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**705.935.8327**
**@traceyleegreenartist**
**traceyleegreen.artist@gmail.com**
**www.traceyleegreen.com**

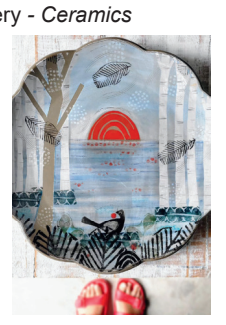
**P**

### Charlene McConnell
Purple Door Pottery Studio - *Pottery*

**2368 Eagle Lake Road**
**705.754.3536**
**@purpledoorpottery**
**purpledoorpotterystudio@gmail.com**
**www.purpledoorpottery.ca**

**Q**

### April Gates
Blackbird Pottery - *Ceramics*



**5843 Gelert Road**
**705.457.4619**
**@blackbirdpottery**
**april@blackbirdpottery.ca**
**www.blackbirdpottery.ca**

**U**

### Louise Owttrim-Ewing & Nicki Brazier-Hagarty
L & N Beadworks - *Beaded Jewellery*

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**647.222.4090**
**@lnbe.adworks**
**nbhjth@bell.net**

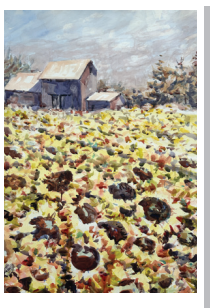
**V**

### Jenn Wanless-Craig and Terry Craig
Artech Studios - *Glassblowing*

**18639 Hwy 118, Tory Hill**
**705.448.9522**
**@artech_thehotshop**
**info@artechstudios.ca**
**www.artechstudios.ca**

**V** GUEST

### Allison Barrow
*Watercolour*



**18639 Hwy 118, Tory Hill**
**416.953.5765**
**@allisonbarrowartist**
**allisonbarrow@sympatico.ca**
**www.allisonbarrow.ca**

**W**

### Rose Pearson
*Acrylic, Oil, Mixed Media Painting*

**1009 Camp White Pine Court, Haliburton**
**705.457.9960**
**@rosepearsonstudio**
**rosepearsonstudio@gmail.com**
**www.rosepearson.com**

*Now in its 38th year, 'The Studio Tour – Haliburton Highlands' continues to be a proud member of the Haliburton Highlands community that celebrates the diversity of handcrafted fine art. We are passionate about connecting people with the incredible art made by our talented creators and artisans.*

*This year will be the largest Studio Tour in its history and offers visitors a unique and unforgettable experience by allowing visitors to tour the Haliburton Highlands and witness the vibrant autumn colours while visiting our 26 studios featuring 46 artists.*
*You will have the opportunity to meet the artists, shop and learn about their creative process.*

*Perhaps you'll find that special piece that speaks to you and takes you on a journey. Many items are one-of-a-kind, so you can feel confident that your purchase will be a special addition to your collection.*

*No matter your budget or preference, The Studio Tour - Haliburton Highlands has a wide selection of items available from pottery, jewellery and glass to paintings, woodworking, metal and so much more.*

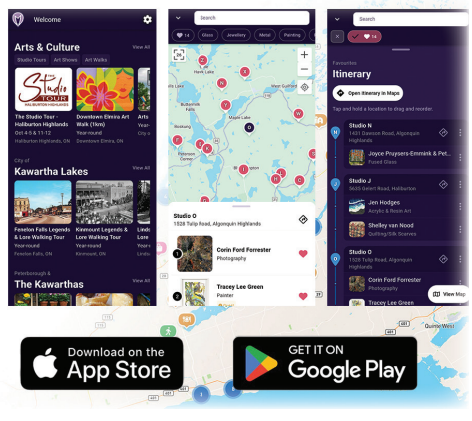
*We believe art has the power to inform, inspire, and bring the world together. With this in mind, The Studio Tour - Haliburton Highlands strives to promote the appreciation and enjoyment of art in our community.*

*Come and explore this 'not to be missed' Studio Tour in the Haliburton Highlands, you won't be disappointed!*

TOUREKA

**Experience the joy of discovery.**

***Plan your own studio tour***
***Build your own itinerary***
***Get directions***
***Explore artists and events***



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This custom built (2022) home offers serene privacy and breathtaking forest views. The warm, rustic interior features natural wood finishes. Expansive windows fill the space, inviting the outdoors in. Enjoy tranquil mornings on the deck, and peaceful evenings surrounded by the quiet beauty of nature in every season. Massive garage for a workshop with lots of parking for large vehicles. Just under 10 acres.

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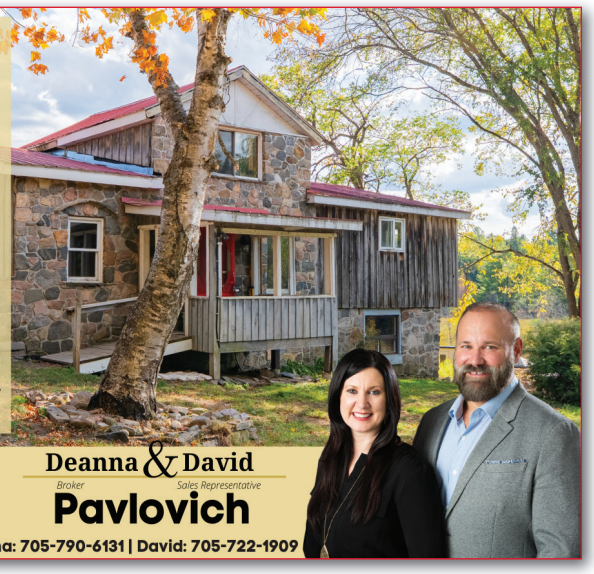

Deanna & David Pavlovich
Broker Sales Representative
Deanna: 705-790-6131 | David: 705-722-1909

## 2166 BLAIRHAMPTON ROAD $529,000

1100 SQ. ft. 3 bedroom bungalow sits on private 5.5 acre lot in peaceville Blairhampton - cozy country kitchen and dining area - 4pc bath - new septic 2018 - full w/o basement unfinished - FA propane - 26' x 40' 2 storey garage - fully insulated - 2nd floor wide open and carpeted - FA propane heating

**Ted Vasey**
Sales Representative
705-455-2034
ted@tedvasey.ca

## CUTE & COZY BUNGALOW $449,900

* Contemporary Open-Concept Design
* Main Floor Bedroom & Laundry
* Spacious Double Loft and Partially Finished Lower Level
* Close to Beach and Lakes

**Ken Barry**
Broker 705-754-5280
**Jacquie Barry**
Realtor® 705-457-0652
www. kenbarry.com
**Out Standing In Our Field**

## KUSHOG LAKE HOME $699,000

This 3-bed, 2-bath home on Kushog Lake offers a fantastic waterfront lifestyle. The property features a perimeter fence, ideal for dog owners, & a solid-built home including a full basement with a workshop & separate entrance. Enjoy the privacy in the low-traffic inlet on the lake, perfect for water activities & swimming.

**Terry Carr & Drew Staniforth**
Sales Representatives
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MovingTheHighlands.com

## $1,199,000

**1053 Cheerful Lane**
**BENOIR LAKE**

- 705' frontage
- Southwest Exposure
- Cottage + Guest House
- 5 bedrooms, 2 baths
- Rippled sand beach
- Level lot with pines
- 3 lake chain, Benoir/Elephant/Baptiste

scan to view the listing!

## FOR SALE!

VINCE **DUCHENE**

## WILBERFORCE $239,900

- Across from pub. acc. to Clement Lk
- 2 bed/1 bath, 3 season cottage
- Cozy interior; end of rd privacy
- Open concept; lrg main window
- Living rm walk-out to front yard
- Mixed topo; well treed; shed
- Accessed via municipal yr-rnd rd
- Being sold under Power of Sale
- Being sold As-Is Where-Is

**Rick Forget**
Broker
705-457-0580
haliburtonhighlands-remax.ca

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## 7 STOUFFER ST $399,999

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MOVE IN READY & minutes from downtown Minden

**Jackie Hardman**
Sales Representative
705-879-8041
jackiedhardman@gmail.com

## KUSHOG LAKE $799,000

Spotless 4-season cottage, insulated guest cabin. 3-season sunroom w/cathedral beamed ceilings. Modern pine ceiling kitchen w/ skylight, living room w/wood stove & lg master bdrm. 124 ft of frontage. Deep water off dock's end,& walk-in entry. Lakeside deck & dock system, & firepit area and 4-person wood-fired barrel sauna! Solid concrete block foundation w/ crawl space, lake water w/ heated line, UV system, lg rear deck, low maintenance yard and building. new windows, exterior door, washer/dryer (2023+/-). New mudroom.

**Deb Lambe**
Sales Representative
705-854-0103
debra.lambe@gmail.com

## CUSTOM BUILT HOME $1,499,000




- 2 Acres of Land Open to the Back
- Great Room, Open Flow, Main Floor Living
- Garage with InFloor Heating and Work Bench
- Custom Features Throughout this Home
- Minutes to Minden

**Lynda Litwin**
Sales Representative
705-457-8511
lynda@lyndalitwin.ca

## 1211 GELERT ROAD $1,200,000

- 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2019 Royal Home. Large deck surrounding home
- 49.9 Acres with trails
- Home is a dual heat system. Can use either forced air propane furnace or forced air wood boiler.
- 55'x24' shop or office with in-floor heating, steps from the house.
- More outbuildings and storage on the property, Heated greenhouse
- Minutes from Minden and Kinmount

**Kelly Mercer**
Broker
705-455-7500
kelly@kelly-mercer.ca

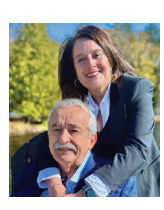
## ST. NORA LAKE $1,350,000

Beautifully maintained 4 bed, 4 bath year-round home/cottage sits on 150 ft waterfront on St. Nora Lake. Open concept layout. Separate Bunkie. Detached garage with loft. St. Nora Lake is part of a desirable two-lake chain w/ Kushog Lake, great for boating & fishing. Outdoor enthusiasts will love the proximity to snowmobile, ATV, hiking & cross-country skiing trails, making this a four-season paradise.

**Lisa Mercer**
Broker
705-457-0364
www.lisamercer.ca
lisa@lisamercer.ca

## HORSESHOE LAKE $515,000

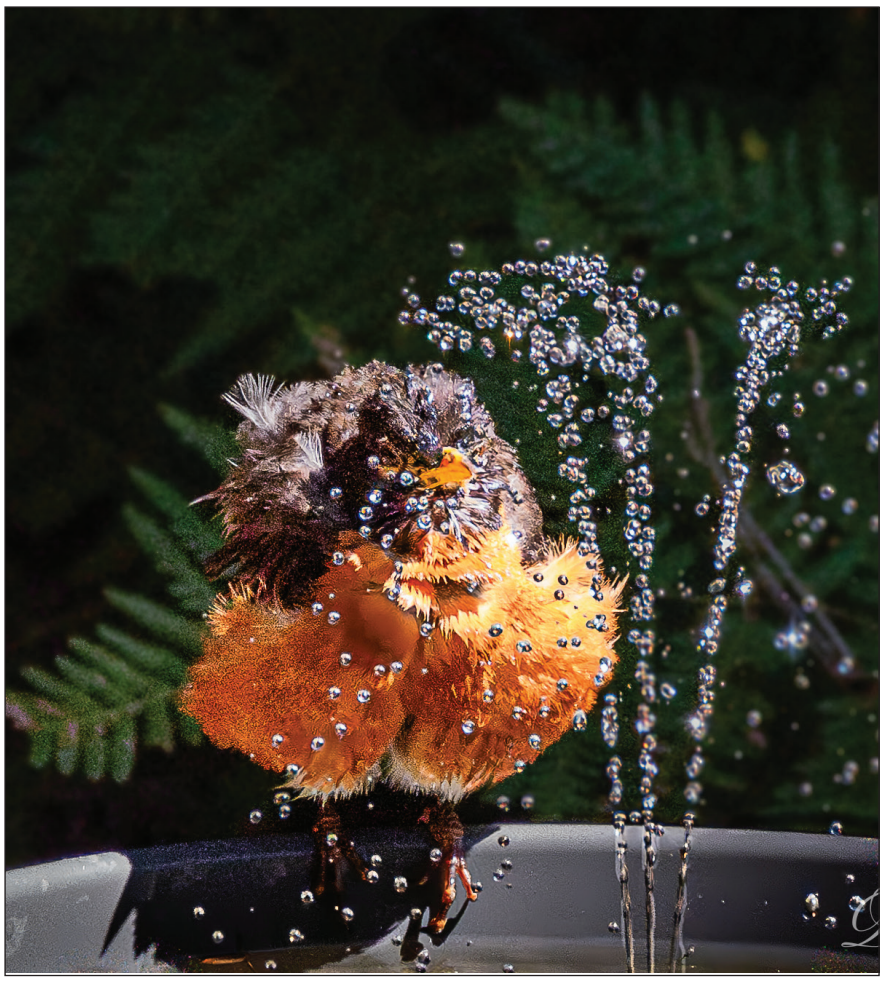
Quaint 4 Bedroom Cottage with fireplace on beautiful Horseshoe Lake. Cozy sunroom to relax and enjoy big lake views. Level lot. Sandy Beach Shoreline. Dry Boathouse. Close to all amenities in Minden. A rare find on a large lake!



**John & Marj Parish**
John Parish 705-457-5485
Marj Parish 705-455-2211
Sales Representatives

# Nature in your backyard

*County Life* welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email emily@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.



Robin taking a bath by Debi Ireland

Moose by Tammy Nash

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Beaver by Tammy Nash

Clouded Sulphur butterfly by Jill Moulton

Chipmunk by Rhonda LaMantia

Little vole by Jamie Maxwell

Owl visitor by Gord Kinzie

## Community Events

**Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com**

**Haliburton Sculpture Forest and Fleming College Haliburton School of Design + Art Present - From Mathematics to Art with George Hart**
When: Thursday, Oct. 2, 5 to 6 p.m.
Where: Great Hall, Fleming College Haliburton School of Art +Design, 297 College Drive, Haliburton
Mathematician/sculptor George Hart extends this tradition by designing and building geometrically informed sculpture that generally involves computer technology and laser-cutting in their design and fabrication. This highly visual talk will present examples of Hart's work, show some of his methods, and discuss some of the underlying ideas of patterns and symmetry. George will be working with a group of College and High School on Friday, Oct. 3 to create a large mathematical sculpture for the Haliburton Sculpture Forest. For more information about George's work, visit www.georgehart.com

**Free Clothing Swap Hosted by the Wilberforce Fundraising Committee**
When: Drop off is Friday, Oct. 3 from 5 to 8 p.m.
Where: Lloyd Watson Community Centre in Wilberforce
Clothing must be clean and in good condition. Donations are not required to come back on Sat., Oct. 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Clothing is free and something for everyone.

**Autumn Harvest Dinner/Dance**
When: Friday, Oct. 3 at 5:30 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion
Doors open 5:30 p.m., Turkey/Ham dinner at 6:30 p.m. $40/person or $75/couple. Music by Gord Kidd & Friends / DJ Jamie Bacon. 50/50 Draw. Door Prizes. Call Linda 705-457-2064 for tickets.

**Haliburton County Historical Society Annual Harvest Dinner**
When: Saturday, Oct. 4 at 5:30 p.m.
Where: Stanhope Firefighter's Hall, 1095 North Shore Rd.
Tickets $30 each. Proceeds will go to the Rotary Club's Skyline Park Project. For tickets and information call 705-754-0427

**Fall Festival at Walkabout Farm**
When: Saturday, Oct. 4, from 12 - 3 p.m.
Where: 1105 Spring Valley Rd, Minden
Admission by Donation. Meet & greets with our therapy animals, Pumpkin roll & pumpkin painting, Buried treasure game, Fall-themed photo booth. All proceeds will directly support participant sessions and the ongoing care of our therapy animals.

**Free Workshop with Hope Thompson**
When: Saturday, Oct. 4 from 11 a.m. to noon
Where: The Dysart library in Haliburton Village
Dive into the world of true crime storytelling. In this free workshop, writer and podcaster Hope Thompson will share strategies for finding and researching story ideas, investigative techniques, and transforming real-life events into engaging nonfiction narratives. Registration required. Call 705-457-2241 or email programs@haliburtonlibrary.ca to register.

**Minden & District Horticultural Society "How to Create a Micromeadow"**
When: Oct. 7, 7 p.m.
Where: Minden Community Centre, 55 Parkside St.
Guest speaker Baz Conlin then followed by the monthly society meeting. New members welcome!

**Genealogy for Seniors**
When: Oct 7 at 10:30 a.m. at the Minden Hills Library or 1:30 p.m. at the Dysart Library in Haliburton Village
Genealogy for Seniors, an inspiring introduction to family history research led by Adele Espina of the Haliburton Highlands Genealogy Group, with support provided by the Government of Ontario. This workshop will walk you through the steps of building your family tree.

**Your Voice Your Choice - Advance Care Planning Information Day**
When: Oct. 8, from 9 a.m. to noon
Where: Haliburton Legion, Branch 1239, 719 Mountain St. Haliburton
Light refreshments. Panel 1: Living Decisions (PCCT nurse navigator, Ontario caregivers organization, palliative nurse practitioner or physician, community paramedic), Panel 2: Dying Decisions (lawyer, death doula, maid provider, funeral home representative). Other guests include Registered Dietician, Local Support Services, Pharmacist.

**Drop-In Tech Help Session**
When: Oct. 8 from noon to 2 p.m.
Where: Stanhope Library
Got a tech question or issue? Come by the library for a Drop-In Tech Help Session for quick, friendly, and expert assistance! Whether you're struggling with your smartphone, computer, apps, or any other tech-related problem, our technology support is here to help you get back on track. Please bring your devices and any specific questions or issues you'd like help with.

## Fire Prevention Week October 5-11

# CHARGE INTO FIRE SAFETY: 3 STEPS

Buy only listed products. When buying a product that uses a lithium-ion battery look for a safety certification mark such as UL, ETL, or CSA. This means it meets important safety standards.

Charge devices safely. Always use the cords that came with the product to charge. Follow the instructions from the manufacturer. Buy new chargers from the manufacturer or one that the manufacturer has approved. Charge your device on a hard surface. Don't overcharge your device. Unplug it or remove the battery when it's fully charged.

Recycle batteries responsibly. Don't throw lithium-ion batteries in the trash or regular recycling bins because they could start a fire. Recycle your device or battery at a safe battery recycling location. Visit call2recycle.org to find a recycling spot near you.

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# kids' corner

## What's the Difference?

Find the four differences between the two pictures.

**A**

**B**

Answers: Missing clips on table 2. Missing ornament on plant in back 3. Pin cushion on table 4. Extra measuring tape

## CANADA MONTH HISTORY

**1977**

Katimavik is founded as a volunteer service organization for Canadian youth.

## Craft FACT:

This small spool or cylinder holds thread used in sewing machines.

Answer: Bobbin

## NEW WORD

**BASTE**

temporarily join fabric together with large stitches

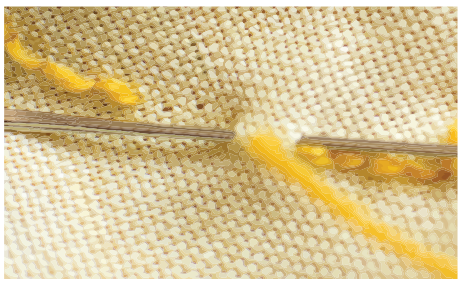
## "How they say that in..."

**English:** Thread
**Spanish:** Hilo
**Italian:** Filo
**French:** Fil
**German:** Faden

## Did You KNOW?

The first records of sewing indicate people used bone needles and animal parts for thread. Sewing certainly has changed a lot in modern times.

## Get the PICTURE?



**Can you guess what the bigger picture is?**

Answer: Needle and thread

# The hills are alive

**JANET TRULL**
*Special to County Life*

Participants preparing for the "Let's Make Opera" shows, slated for later in the month. /submitted

What I don't know about opera is a lot. So, when I was approached about writing a libretto for the project called "Let's Make Opera", I had no idea what I was agreeing to. It's a habit of mine, saying yes. Sure. Why not? I'm a big fan of storytelling, and this was an opportunity to try writing on a new frontier. New for me, that is. Opera has been around for over 400 years, since a cultural revolution called the Renaissance took Europe by storm. The Dark Ages had been, well, dark, and Europeans were waking up to a brave new focus on the arts: painting, sculpture, architecture, scientific discoveries… and opera.

Opera was a form of storytelling that combined vocal and orchestral music, drama, visual arts and dance. Once upon a time, operas were attended by people who owned top hats and tiaras, but that image has changed. The "Let's Make Opera" project, supported by a year-long Seed Grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, offered residents of Haliburton County the opportunity to create operas that reflect local culture.

Let's Make Opera is an ambitious project, led by Haliburton County's first family of opera, Richard Margison, Valerie Kuinka and their daughter Lauren. Professional mentors have been engaged to support the writers, composers and performers in the production of four original operas, each about 20 minutes in length.

I wrote a libretto (Italian for "little book") about Haliburton County's early settlers. When the train let them off at the end of the line, they were faced with unexpected hardships. The women were often left alone in isolated cabins while the men sought jobs on the railway or in lumber camps. The cast is made up of four women, Beth Kipping, Gwen Atkinson, Marsha Sweet, and Hannah Klose. They represent immigrants from Scotland, Russia, Italy and Iceland. Melissa Stephens (one of four LMO Project Mentors) is the accompanying pianist. Survival is tenuous until the women combine their resources and knowledge to create community. This opera honours their grit.

"Women flow like streams. They rise like mist. They lie passive and frozen under winter moons. But know this. Below their surface is a current strong enough to carve granite."

On Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m., the four operas will be performed by local singers and musicians at the Northern Lights Pavilion (at Haliburton High School). Themes cover all the stories you're likely to hear at the arena or local coffee shop; love stories, tragedies, woodland discoveries, and drunken debauchery.

Thanks to "Let's Make Opera", I have a new appreciation of the operatic creative process. From its classical roots in Italy, to the sounds and stories of the highlands, opera has adapted to engage and inspire new audiences. The hills are alive with the sound of opera.

Information about purchasing tickets for the Oct. 18 performance is available at highlandsoperastudio.com.

# Legion Events

### Branch 441 Kinmount

**Monday:** Bid euchre 1 p.m., Cornhole 7 p.m. (upstairs)
**Tuesday:** Last Tuesday of the month-liver luncheon with one alternative 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
**Wednesday:** Mixed darts 7:30 p.m. Canteen opens at 6 p.m.
**Thursday:** General meeting (3rd week) Members only 7:30 p.m.
**Friday:** Chair yoga 10 a.m. Bingo, doors open at 5 p.m. play at 6:45 p.m.
**Saturday:** Meat draw 5 p.m. Canteen opens at 3 p.m.
**Sunday:** Ladies Auxiliary meeting (members only) 3rd week at 2 p.m.
**Special events: May 11** Mother's day breakfast $13.00/person
Friday night BBQ
Hall rentals available at reasonable prices. Call 705-488-3462 or 705-928-7105. We welcome everyone to our events and we look forward to seeing you!

### Branch 129 Haliburton

**Mondays:** Bridge 1 p.m. Schofield Rm. Youth darts 6:30 to 8 p.m. Clubroom 10 to 18 years of age. All are welcome, no experience necessary
**Tuesdays:** League darts 7 p.m.
**Wednesdays**: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall. Bingo doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo 7 p.m. FirstWed of each month with jackpot. Follow Facebook.com/Branch129 Bingo for the most up-to-date information
**Thursdays**: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. All members urged to attend.
Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
**Fridays:** Five meat draw, five prizes each draw, first draw 4:30 p.m., last draw 6:30 p.m. Tickets $2 per draw. Paul Sisson, MC. Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards. 50/50 Draw 5:40 p.m.
*Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Everyone is welcome!* Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m.

### Branch 636 Minden

**Lunch - Monday to Friday**
**Monday:** Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
**Tuesday:** Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.
**Thursday:** Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
**Every other Friday:** Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
**Friday** Fish & Chips, Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.
**Saturday** All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541.
Schedules are subject to change without notice.
Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.

### Branch 624 Wilberforce

**Hours - Sunday: Special Events Only, Monday: 7 to 10 p.m., Tuesday: Closed, Wednesday: 2 to 10 p.m., Thursday: 2 to 10 p.m., Friday: 2 to 11 p.m., Saturday: 2 to 9 p.m.**
Monday:
Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27 Darts $5/player 7 p.m.
Wednesday:
Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Darts $4/player 2 p.m.
Quick Supper Menu changes weekly $10. 5 to 6:30 pm.
Cribbage League 6:30 – Sign up at the Legion
Thursday:
Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Horseshoes $5/player 7 p.m.
Oct. 9, 23 HHHS Social Rec 10 a.m.
Friday:
Oct. 3, 17, 31 Fish and Chips 1pc/$15, 2pc/$20
Oct. 10, 24 Community Care 55+ Lunch $17, noon
Wings and Jam Session $15/lb 5 to 8 p.m.
Saturday:
Oct. 4 Lakeside Golf Course $90 includes lunch. Bus leaves the Legion at 10:30 a.m. Noon start. Pre-register at the Legion.
Cribbage Tournament at The Legion. Registration at 10 a.m. Play starts at 11am. $20
Oct.18 Pop-Up Darts Supplies Sale from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.,
Horseshoes Tournament. Registration at 10 a.m. Play starts at 11 a.m. $20
Open Mic. 2-6pm. Free. 3pm Meat Draw, Trivia Night 7 p.m. $5 per player
Oct. 25 Halloween Karaoke Party 8pm-1am. Free
Sunday:
Oct. 19 L.A Breakfast $10. 9 to 11 a.m. Call the Legion for more info 705-448-2221

**SIRCHlight** *Creating connection and resilience – together*

# Health is more than medicine

When you hear the word health, what comes to mind? Probably doctors, medicine, or exercise. But here's the truth: our health is shaped just as much by rent, income, food, friendships, and whether there's a grocery store nearby.

We were reminded of that when a mom called us with a dilemma. Her child had been diagnosed with an autoimmune disease, triggered by gluten. She was on a fixed income and gluten-free food was so expensive she often had to choose between keeping them well-fed or keeping them well. That wasn't a "medical" problem. It was an income problem, a food access problem, and a stress problem all rolled into one.

These everyday factors are called the Social Determinants of Health. The term may sound technical, but it's really simple: health is shaped by whether you can afford groceries, get a ride to the doctor, or have a friend who checks in when life is tough.

At SIRCH, we see this every day. A mom choosing between rent and food. A senior who lives only a few miles from the grocery store but can't get there without a $45 taxi ride. A family with unpredictable seasonal work living with constant anxiety about the next month. None of these struggles live in isolation; they layer on top of one another.

That's why, when we design programs, we don't just ask, "What's the problem we'll solve?" We ask, "What are the ripple effects?" And it's the same question we can all ask in daily life - because small actions, yours and ours, add up.

It's why we became a Living Wage Employer – because income matters. It's why we build welcoming spaces – because connection matters. It's why we teach cooking skills and food literacy – because confidence and knowledge matter. And it's why we continue to create meals, thrift opportunities, and community support - because those basic needs matter most of all.

Strengthening health doesn't always mean grand gestures. It looks like:

Sharing garden produce with a neighbour.

Offering a ride to the store.

Teaching your teen how to stretch leftovers into another meal.

Donating clothing so someone else has affordable choices.

Smiling at the person who looks lonely.

These gestures may seem small. But stitched together, they make communities stronger. They turn vulnerability into resilience. They are health.

So next time you think about what it means to be "healthy," look beyond medicine. Think about the threads we can weave together - kindness, opportunity, support. When those threads are strong, we all are.

*Submitted*

Haliburton HIGHLANDS Seniors Active Living Centre

## Check out this month's SALC events and activities for residents aged 55+

**Museum and Village Tour**
October 2 @ 1 p.m.
**Genealogy for Seniors**
October 7, 15, 29 @ various times
**Painting Class**
October 1, 16 and 30 @ 10 a.m.
**Service Canada webinar**
October 15 @ 10 a.m.
**Qi Gong**
October 15th @ 2:30 p.m.
**Cooking on a Budget**
October 21 @ 3:30
**Forest Bathing**
October 22nd @ 1:00 p.m.
**Licence Renewal for 80+ webinar** – October 27 @ 9 a.m.
**Seniors Fitness**
Fridays @ 9 and 11
**Mindful Meditation**
October 30th @ 10 a.m.

**Drop-in Cards & Board Games**

- Mondays 1 p.m. and Thursdays 7 p.m. Hosted at Minden Legion
- Wednesdays 6:30 p.m. Hosted at Dorset Rec Centre
- Thursdays (11 and 25) 1 p.m. Hosted at Harcourt Community Centre
- Saturdays 2:30 p.m. Hosted at Wilberforce Legion

**Haliburton County Seniors Active Living Centre (SALC)**

Through this program, older adults (55+) and seniors (65+) are invited to get active, make friends, and be well!

The SALC Program is designed to provide social, cultural, learning, and recreational opportunities for seniors to stay fit, healthy and socially connected in their communities.

SALC Programming is available in Haliburton County beginning in July 2025, through collaboration between the County of Haliburton and local municipalities, the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility, and multiple partners.

For more information, visit haliburtoncounty.ca/SALC or pick up a full calendar at a participating SALC location, including a Legion or Library near you!

Funding for this program has been provided by the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility.

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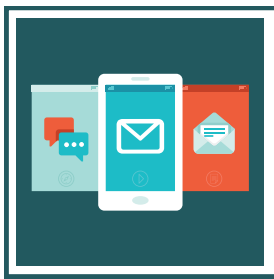

Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to
emily@haliburtonpress.com

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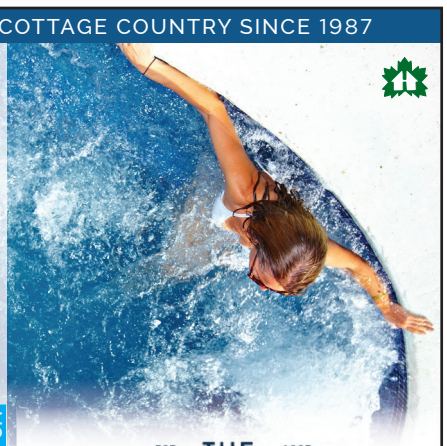

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**Minden Condo for sale.** Garden Suite No balconies above. Patio and small yard/garden. 1012 sq ft open concept. lg bright master bdrm/5 pc ensuite. laundry/pantry. Den/guest bdrm. 2nd 4 pc bath. Asking $475,000. Call **705-286-6933**

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## COMING EVENTS

**FALL SALE** by the Eagle Lake Ladies. **Saturday, October 4th** from 10am to 2pm at the Eagle Lake Church - 2605 Eagle Lake Rd. Quilts, Sewing, Crafts

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To see your local free event listed in our Winter Guide Magazine,
**email HaliburtonWinterGuide@gmail.com**
The guide will include events that take place in December 2025, and January through April 2026.
**LISTING DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 10, 2025**

This season brings change–and opportunity. With new listings hitting the market, fall is a smart time to make your move. Our local experts know what's worth acting on and how to help you land your happy place.

## *West Settlement Rd $579,000*

Set on a private 17.42-acre parcel, this property offers a true escape into nature, complete with your own pond and direct frontage on a year-round municipal road. Enjoy tranquil views and indirect access to beautiful West Lake, just across the road perfect for canoeing, kayaking, or relaxing by the water.

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**Kennisis Lake** — $1,999,999 — 4 / 5 — MLS X12110017

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**Kawartha Lakes** — $1,479,000 — 3 / 3 — MLS X12182250

**Canning Lake** — $924,900 — 2 / 3 — MLS X12146750

**Long Lake** — $899,990 — 2 / 6 — MLS X12176356

**Kennisis Lake** — $815,000 — 2 / 3 — MLS X12176356

**Kennisis Lake** — $795,000 — 2 / 3 — MLS X12169805

**Beech Lake** — $799,900 — 2 / 2 — MLS X12250094

**Minden Hills** — $749,000 — 3 / 3 — MLS X12398280

**Kennisis Lake** — $725,000 — 2 / 3 — MLS X12347900

**Kennisis River** — $725,000 — 1 / 3 — MLS X12137708

**Trooper Lake** — $699,000 — 2 / 3 — MLS X12236448

**Little Cameron Lake** — $698,000 — 1 / 3 — MLS X12416325

**Eagle Lake Area** — $659,900 — 1 / 2 — MLS X12095585

**Salerno Lake** — $659,000 — 1 / 3 — MLS X12253284

**Kushog Lake** — $599,900 — 2 / 4 — MLS X12227417

**Wenona Lake** — $578,000 — 1 / 3 — MLS X12367256

**Haliburton** — $435,000 — 2 / 2 — MLS X12343741

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*Inside*
**THIS WEEK**

***Mushroom walk...***
*Snowdon Park the perfect place to enjoy autumn*
**page 10**

***Running for Terry Fox..***
*Area runners hit the road for cancer research*
**page 3**

***Church matters...***
*Group hopes to save St. Stephens*
**page 5**

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*Community*.....22
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**FALL FUN:** At Sunday afternoon's Farm Fall Fest at Waverley Brook Farms, Godfrey Tyler takes his daughter Joan into the garden to show her the beauty of the harvest. More photos page 15.

## Sports out until union, board end impasse on contract

**PETER DOWNS**
*Staff Reporter*

The halls at Haliburton's high school, usually buzzing with students even after classes, are strangely quiet most afternoons now that teachers have cancelled all extra-curricular activities.

There's not much point for kids to hang around when there's nothing for them to do.

It's just as quiet outside.

> *"All of us feel morally terrible about this, but we have to do it to make the point."*
> **LAURA WILLIS**

There should be dozens of junior and senior football and filed hockey players practising or playing on the fields every afternoon at this time of year. But with teachers opting out of all voluntary activities during ongoing negotiations, seagulls and geese have had the fields to themselves after school for the past two weeks.

And at least until there is a solution to the teachers' contract dispute, it looks as though the halls and the sports fields and the classrooms used for other extra-curricular programs will remain silent after the dismissal bell rings at 3:30 p.m.

Though some teachers would like to continue coaching or leading other voluntary activities, their union and other

*See* **Teachers** *page 4*

## Former MPP John Eakins dies

**MARTHA PERKINS**
*Editor*

The man who was elected as Victoria-Haliburton's MPP 23 years ago this week is being remembered as someone who brought "class and dignity to the position."

That was John Eakins' main achievement, says Guy Skipworth, who was the Lindsay politician's constituency assistant when Eakins was a member

*See* **Eakins** *page 6*

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